

Animal By-products Trader Notice No. 02 /2008

Colour-coding of receptacles used to transport ABP to other Member States

1. Background

From 1 July 2008 EU regulations introduced additional requirements for the marking of animal by-products (ABP) being transported between EU Member States. These requirements do not apply to ABP being transported within Ireland.

This notice is intended as practical guidance. It is not a legally binding interpretation of the legislation, which is set out in EC Council Regulation No. 1774 of 2002 (as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1432/2007).

2. Colour-coding

The regulations state that animal by-products and processed products that are dispatched to another Member State must be in packaging, containers or vehicles that are prominently and, at least for the period of transport, indelibly colour coded as follows:

- in the case of Category 1 materials using the colour black,
- in the case of Category 2 materials (other than manure or digestive tract content) using the colour yellow,
- in the case of Category 3 materials using the colour green with a high content of blue to ensure that it is clearly distinguishable from the other colours.

During transport a label attached to the packaging, container or vehicle must:

- Clearly indicate the category of the ABP, or in the case of processed products the category of ABP from which the processed products were derived,
- In the case of Category 3 material include the words '*not for human consumption*',
- In the case of manure and digestive tract content include the words '*manure*',
- In the case of Category 2 material include the words '*not for animal consumption*', however where Category 2 material is intended for the feeding of animals the label should indicate '*for feeding to dogs*', '*for feeding to mink*' etc.,
- In the case of Category 1 material include the words '*for disposal only*'.

3. Labels

A colour-coded label indicating the category and the wording is acceptable. For example, in the case of Category 1 material a label with white wording on a black background stating 'Category 1' and 'for disposal only' is acceptable.

The Regulations do not specify a minimum size for the labels. However the label should be clearly visible taking into account the size of the container or package. In the case of trailers or tankers separate labels should appear on both sides of the container.

Temporary labels are acceptable in the use e.g. of a tanker. However the labels must be sufficiently durable for the intended journey.

4. Commercial Documents and TRACES messages

ABP being sent to other Member States must be accompanied by a Commercial Document conforming with EU Regulation No. 1774/2002. Books of these documents are available free of charge from the Animal By-products Section at the address below. Further details are set out in Trader Notice No. 01/2008.

Category 1 and 2 material and also Category 3 meat and bonemeal can only be sent to another Member State with the prior approval of the authorities in that State. Each consignment must be notified to those authorities using the TRACES system, or by a similar agreed method.

5. Contact Persons

If you have any queries regarding any of the issues raised in this notice, please contact the Animal By-Products Section, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Pavilion B, Grattan Business Centre, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

Phone number: 057-8694344, 057-8694343 or 057-8694349.

Date of issue: September 2008